

Message Text

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ACTION SCI-06

INFO OCT-01 IO-14 ISO-00 FEA-02 ACDA-19 CIAE-00 INR-10

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 RSC-01 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AF-10

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R 060850Z JUN 74

FM USMISSION IAEA VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4506

INFO AEC GERMANTOWN

UNCLAS IAEA VIENNA 5009

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: TECH, AORG, AFIN, IAEA

SUBJECT: CALIFORNIUM-252

1. SUMMARY: MISSION INTENDS TO SEEK REVERSAL OF PROPOSED REDUCTION IN DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR 1975 ARISING FROM DEFERRAL OF PLANNED TRAINING SYMPOSIUM ON UTILIZATION OF CALIFORNIUM-252 UNTIL 1976. END SUMMARY.

2. IN LISTING OF REDUCTIONS PROPOSED BY DG TO BUDGET ESTIMATES FOR 1975 CONTAINED DOCUMENT GOV/1656/MOD.1 (SEPTEL), MISSION NOTED THAT ONE PROPOSED REDUCTION IN LIFE SCIENCES PROGRAM WAS DEFERRAL TRAINING SEMINAR ON USE OF CALIFORNIUM-252 FROM 1975 UNTIL 1976. THIS SEMINAR HAD BEEN PLANNED TO ENSURE OPTIMUM USE AND PROVIDE TRAINING FOR SAFE UTILIZATION OF CF-252 SOURCES WHICH ARE BEING PROVIDED TO IAEA BY USAEC FOR RESEARCH PROJECTS IN MEMBER STATES. AGENCY STAFF MEMBER DIRECTLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THIS SEMINAR (LERCH, US, DOSIMETRY SECTION) FELT THAT WHILE PERHAPS NOT ABSOLUTELY ESSENTIAL TO INSURE SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF CF-252 PROGRAM, THIS SEMINAR HAS HIGHLY DESIRABLE TO ENABLE SECRETARIAT TO CHECK DIRECTLY ON SAFETY MEASURES AND DESIGN OF RESEARCH PROJECTS USING THE SOURCES THROUGH PERSONAL CONTACT WITH CONCERNED PERSONNEL IN MEMBER STATES RECEIVING THEM; TRAVEL BY UNCLASSIFIED

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SECRETARIAT TO EVERY RECIPIENT CONTRACTING INSTITUTION

IS OBVIOUSLY NOT FEASIBLE.

3. DECISION TO INCLUDE DEFERRAL THIS SEMINAR TO 1976 AS MEANS OF REDUCTION OF 1975 BUDGET ESTIMATES WAS APPARENTLY TAKEN BY AGENCY ADMINISTRATION IN EFFORT TO ACCOMMODATE CALLS FOR ECONOMY MADE AT A&B COMMITTEE MEETING BY SEVERAL OTHER ADVANCED COUNTRIES (INCLUDING UK, FRANCE, AUSTRALIA, CANADA) WHICH HAD FOCUSED ON LIFE SCIENCES PROGRAM AS OF LOWER PRIORITY THAN SOME OTHER PROPOSED AGENCY ACTIVITIES IN 1975. FIRST NEWS MISSION HAD THAT THIS ACTION WAS PLANNED CAME WHEN DOCUMENT WAS CIRCULATED.

4. WHEN MISSION QUERIED LERCH, HE STATED THAT DECISION TAKEN WITHOUT HIS OR DOSIMETRY SECTION'S CONCURRENCE. HIS FEELING, OF WHICH HE STATED HE HAD APPRISED HIS SUPERIORS, WAS THAT IF THIS SEMINAR NOT HELD DURING 1975, IT SHOULD PROBABLY NOT RPT NOT BE HELD AT ALL; HE HAD ENVISAGED AGENCY PROGRAM COMPONENT OF CF-252 UTILIZATION TERMINATING AT END OF 1975 AFTER ALL SOURCES TO BE DONATED BY USAEC HAD BEEN DEPLOYED IN RECIPIENT STATES AND RELEVANT PERSONNEL TRAINED AND ADVISED IN THEIR USE. IN VIEW LOW ACTIVITY LEVEL WHICH COULD BE EXPECTED OF SOURCES BY 1976, IT SEEMED RATHER POINTLESS TO HOLD TRAINING MEETING DEALING WITH THEM AT THAT LATE DATE. MISSION CONCURS WITH THIS ASSESSMENT.

5. IN VIEW STRONG US INTERESTS IN PROPER IMPLEMENTATION THIS AGENCY PROGRAM ACTIVITY, WHICH ESSENTIALLY AMOUNTS TO PROPER DISTRIBUTION AND USE OF MATERIALS DONATED BY USG TO AGENCY FOR THIS PRUPOSE, MISSION BELIEVES TECHNICAL DESIRABILITY OF HOLDING PROPOSED SEMINAR DURING 1975, AS PLANNED, IS EVIDENT. IT ALSO OUR BELIEF THAT THIS INTEREST IS STRONG ENOUGH FOR USG TO INTERVENE IN THIS MATTER, ESPECIALLY SINCE NONE OF THE CALLS FOR ECONOMIES AT A&B COMMITTEE FOCUSED ON THIS PARTICULAR PROGRAM COMPONENT.

6. ACCORDINGLY, MISSION HAS TRANSMITTED LETTER TO DG FORMALLY EXPRESSING OUR REGRET THAT HE HAS CHOSEN TO UNCLASSIFIED

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REDUCE ESTIMATES BY DEFERRAL OF THIS SEMINAR UNTIL A DATE WHEN IT WILL ESSENTIALLY HAVE LOST ITS PURPOSE. LETTER ASKS FOR DG'S ASSURANCE THAT SEMINAR WILL BE HELD AS PLANNED IN 1975, EITHER BY RESTORATION OF PROPOSAL AND FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT IT IN 1975 PROGRAM AND BUDGET ESTIMATES PRIOR TO BOARD MEETING ON JUNE 11, OR ALTERNATIVELY THROUGH ASSURANCE THAT FUNDS FOR MEETING WILL BE FOUND AND MEETING HELD, IF NECESSARY UNDER SOME OTHER NAME

THAN TRAINING SEMINAR, FROM ELSEWHERE IN APPROVED PROGRAM.
LETTER STRESSES FACT THAT NO MEMBER WHO CALLED FOR
ECONOMIES SPECIFICALLY SUGGESTED THIS PARTICULAR REDUCTION,
DG WAS WELL AWARE OF STRONG US INTEREST IN FULL AND PROPER
IMPLEMENTATION THIS PROGRAM COMPONENT, AND WE FEEL THAT
THIS PARTICULAR SUGGESTED REDUCTION DOES NOT RPT NOT
REFLECT GUIDANCE WHICH MEMBERS OF A&B COMMITTEE HANDED
TO DG AS TO SEARCH FOR POSSIBLE REDUCTIONS IN ESTIMATES.
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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974IAEAV05009
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
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Review Markings:

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30 JUN 2005

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